## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

## ELIMINATION OF PREMATURE BLOCKING IN COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS.

the specification of which:

is attached hereto.

was filed on ½/16/∞ as

Application Serial No. 09/505,474

and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

## PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)

			Priority Claimed	
Country	<u>Number</u>	Date Filed	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
·				
		on the same of the		
United States of the claims of the manner in the manner Section 112, Title 37, Code	application(s) list of this application or provided by the lacknowledge the of Federal Regular of he prior applicat	der Title 35, United States ested below and, insofar as the is not disclosed in the prior the first paragraph of Title the duty to disclose material gulations, Section 1.56(a) which and the national or PCT	ne subject matter of United States app 35, United States information as defich occurred between	of each lication Code ined in
Application S	erial No.	Filing Date	<u>Status</u>	
·	<u> </u>			—

And I hereby appoint Thomas E. Smith, Registration No. 18,243, Dennis M. McWilliams, Registration No. 25,195, James R. Sweeney, Registration No. 18,721, William M. Lee, Jr., Registration No. 26,935, Glenn W. Ohlson, Registration No. 28,455, David C. Brezina, Registration No. 34,128, Jeffrey R. Gray, Registration No.

33,391, Timothy J. Engling, Registration No. 39,970, Gregory B. Beggs, Registration No. 19,286, Gerald S. Geren, Registration No. 24,528, Peter J. Shakula, Registration No. 40,808, and Robert F.I. Conte, Registration No. 20,354, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith. It is requested that all communications be directed to Lee, Mann, Smith, McWilliams, Sweeney & Ohlson, P.O. Box 2786, Chicago, Illinois 60690-2786, telephone number (312) 368-1300.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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